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ABSTRACT

Arguing that learning activity packages (LAPs) should be implemented in the Arab world schools, the author discusses why LAPs are important, examines their components, and, in the bulk of the document, provides an example of a learning package dealing with the economy of Jordan. LAPs are important because they provide options for student learning styles, provide for genuine interaction between teacher and student, encourage the development of student responsibility, are applicable to all areas of the curriculum, and make teaching more enjoyable. The components of an LAP are: cover, introduction, objectives, pre-assessment exercises, body of the package, self-check exercises, post-assessment exercises, quest (follow-up activities), and a bibliography of sources used in developing the package. In the sample LAP provided, students learn about the effectiveness of agriculture and animal husbandry and the importance of industry and trade in the economy of Jordan. The activities are many and varied and involve students in reading and discussing books and journal articles, viewing films, taking field trips, participating in debates, doing library research, and writing essays. (RM)

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WHAT ARE THE MAJOR ASPECTS OF

JORDAN'S ECONOMY?

(A LEARNING ACTIVITY PACKAGE)

August, 1983

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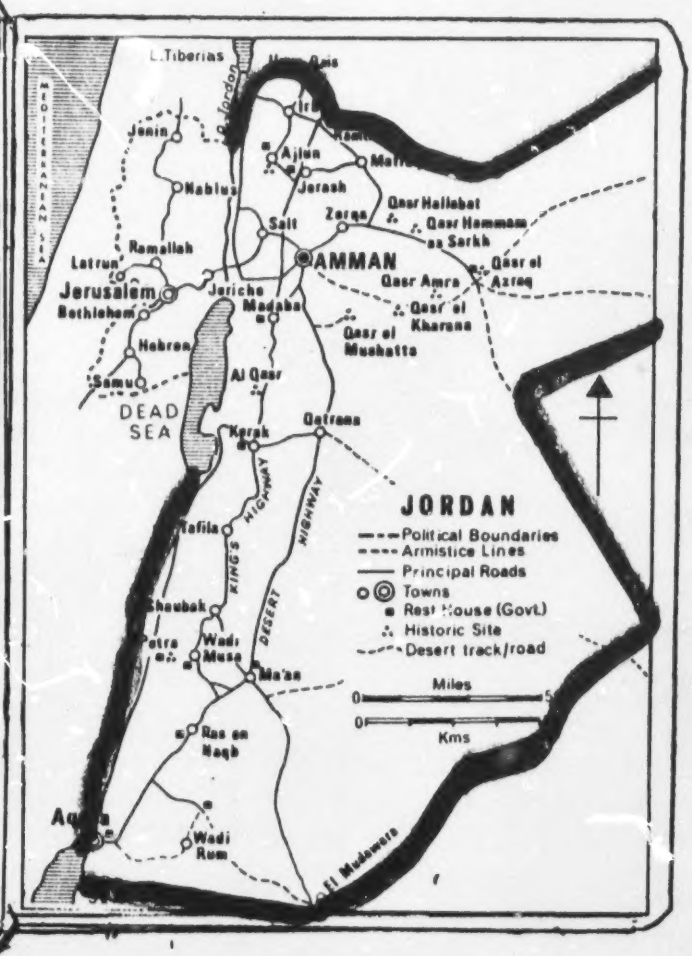
The face of Jordan's future. The nation's greatest resource is its young people who are being nurtured in an expanding school system designed to meet the challenges of the new Jordan. Today, 92 per cent of al Jordanian children, ages 6 to 11, attend primary school; 63 per cent of those 12 to 14 are in junior high school, and 31 per cent of the 15-to-17-year-olds are in senior high school. And 27 per cent of those between 18 and 22 are enrolled in universities and other institutions of higher learning.



WHAT ARE THE MAJOR ASPECTS OF JORDAN'S ECONOMY?

(A Learning Activity Package)

The purpose of this article is to examine the Learning Activity Package (LAP) as a means of individualizing instruction. In brief, the article will attempt to answer the following questions: (1) What is a Learning Activity Package (LAP)? (2) Why it is important ? , (3) What are the components of the LAP ? (4) How can the LAP components be implemented in the Arab World schools ?

Definition of the Learning Activity Package(LAP):

A Learning Activity Package(LAP) is a self - Instructional system that enables a learner to achieve objectives, at his own needs and interests. It is a step - by- step set of directions that gives the learner options to meet certain well-defined objectives. It clearly tells the student what he is going to learn; suggests how he may learn through a variety of learning activities and resources, and determines if he has learned.

Why Learning Packages are Important?

Learning Activity Packages are important in learning-teaching situations for the following reasons:

1. They provide options for student learning styles and pace.
2. They provide more occasions for genuine interaction between teacher and student.
3. They encourage development of student responsibility and decision-making.
4. The process of the Learning Activity Packages is applicable to all areas of the curriculum, to the needs and resources

of the school and community; and the goals and objectives of each curricular area, each teacher, and the coordination of the entire school or district program across disciplines and departments.

5. Teachers and students will find education more enjoyable and rewarding experience.

What Are the Components of the Learning Activity Package?

The good Learning Activity Package should include the following important components:

(1) Cover: The cover should include the Learning Activity Package title, and the name of the developer. It should have as much eye appeal as possible. If the Learning Activity Package is one of a sequence, it can be coded for easy identification. Whenever possible, color and illustrations are desirable. These techniques should be used throughout the package whenever appropriate.

(2) Introduction: The introduction is the first page after the cover. On a separate sheet, it gives a description or overview of the package. The introduction would identify the Primary Idea, and attempt to establish relevancy for the student. It is, in all cases, written for the student, and should communicate to him where he was, where he is, and where he is going. Since not all packages may be required, the introduction must communicate specifically to the student why the package is important and worthwhile for him. The introduction should also attempt to show the relationship between the learning package and the course or school curriculum so the student knows how it fits into his total learning program.

(3) Objectives: All of the objectives of the learning activity package are listed in one place for student reference. It is, in effect, a collection of the objectives written for each section of the package. The objectives are written using this stem: "After you complete this learning package, you will be able to :".

(4) Pre-Assessment: The pre-assessment follows the listing of the objectives unless it is to be excluded from the package.

(5) Body of Package:The body includes the title, objectives, resource and application activities for each section of the package. Each section can have its own introduction and self-check if desired.

(6) Self-Check: The self-check follows the last section of the body of the package. It may be excluded from the package if desired.

(7) Post-Assessment: If the post-assessment is not a formal test, it may be included in the package for ease of administration.

(8) Quest: For most packages, students will be directed to take the post-assessment after they have sucessfully completed the self-check and the directions for completing the post-assessment.

(9) Sources: The last page(s) of the Learning Activity Package (LAP) specifically identifies the sources used in the package.

How Can the Learning Activity Package Components be Implemented in the Arab World Schools?

To answer the fourth question listed at the beginning of this article, the writer will try to develop a Learning Activity Package (LAP) related to the Arab World Economy, by including all components explained before. The Learning Activity Package will be entitled "What are the Major Aspects of Jordan's Economy?".

WHAT ARE THE MAJOR ASPECTS OF JORDAN'S ECONOMY?

Introduction

Situated at the crossroads of three continents, Jordan is the richest , best-preserved, natural museum of ancient civilizations and religions in the world. It is also at the hub of the world's fastest growing, most dynamic regional market stretching from Egypt to Iran. Jordan is the gateway to a market of 120 million people, with virtually unlimited absorptive capacity and a combined gross national product approaching 150 billion dollars. It is rapidly becoming a manufacturing and service center with advantages that are unique in the area.

To meet the vastly increased demand in recent years for goods and services in the Middle East, Jordan has implemented an expanded program to encourage foreign firms to invest within its borders and to enter joint ventures with local enterprises.

Land under irrigation is being multiplied to maximize production from the famous fertile Jordan Valley and other potentially arable tracts. Recent advances in desert farming are turning previously arid lands into productive farms.

Light and heavy industries are expanding. Jordanian private investors are establishing new industrial companies at the rate of 50 a year. In the first five months following the enactment of the Jordan Foreign Companies Registration Law in November 1975, 40 American firms applied to locate their Mideast regional headquarters in Jordan. A proportionate number of European and Japanese firms have done the same.

Because of the above facts , I do believe that developing a learning package about Jordan's Economy is worthwhile.

In this package, the developer has chosen the "Aspects of Jordan's Economy" as the primary idea, followed by three secondary ideas: "The Effectiveness of Agriculture and Animal Husbandry", "The Importance of Industry", and"Trade Plays a Vital Factor ".

Various activities are listed in the package which are highly related to the objectives which will be achieved after completing the package .

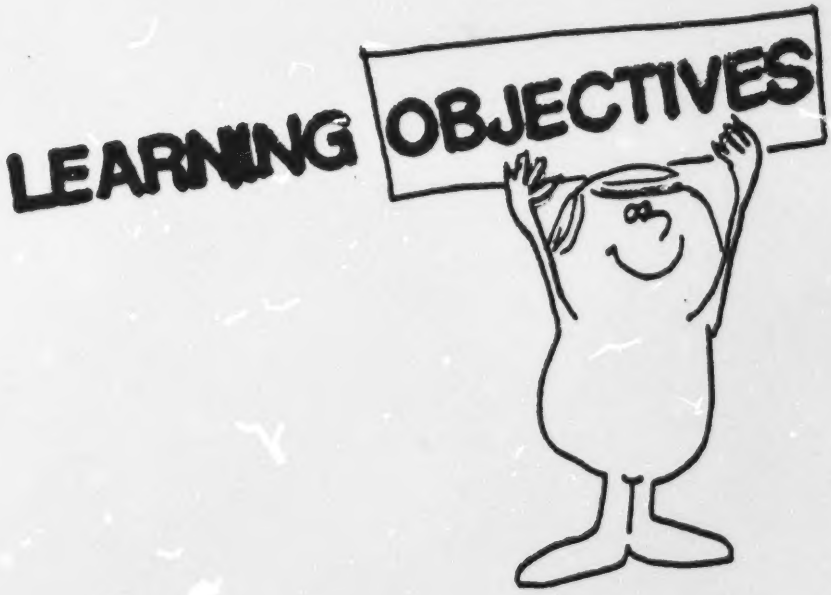
The estimated time required for completion by an average high school student in approximately 20 hours, but this will vary greatly with the type of activities selected by the student. It is written for high school students of average ability, but could easily be adapted to both gifted senior and junior high students, and possibly mature junior high students of average ability.

OBJECTIVES

After you complete this learning package you will be able to:

1. List at least three of Jordan's agricultural activities.
2. Explain the relationship between agriculture and animal husbandry.
3. Compare the real agricultural situation in Jordan with other progressive countries such as the United States, and Great Britain.
4. Describe the real development which has taken place in the Jordan's Valley during the last two decades.

5. Evaluate the efforts of Jordan's government toward solving animal husbandry problems.
6. Classify Jordan's agricultural crops according to the seasons (summer crops & winter crops) and to their economic importance (cash crops & food crops).
7. Define the most common types of industry in Jordan.
8. List at least two kinds of industry which are controlled by the Jordanian government.
9. Analyze Jordan's industrial data from international statistical books.
10. Describe the importance of private-sector industry in Jordan.



11. Compare the present amount being spent nationally to support industry with other years in the past.
12. Define the two major types of trade found in Jordan.
13. List at least two characteristics of Jordan's trade.
14. Explain the importance of external trade in Jordan's economy.

15. Describe the relationship between Jordan's trade and her transportation system.
16. Discuss the reasons for Jordan's increased imports and exports in the last ten years.
17. Explain the most difficult problems facing Jordan's trade in the last decade.
18. Evaluate the efforts of the Jordanian government toward establishing good trade relations with the West, especially with the United States and Western Europe.

PRE - ASSESSMENT

On your paper, answer the following questions:

1. Where is Jordan located?
   a- In Africa. b- In Europe.
   c- In Asia. d- In South America.
2. Do you think that Jordan is a developed, underdeveloped, or progressive country? Why?
3. What do you think are the major aspects of economy for any country in the world?

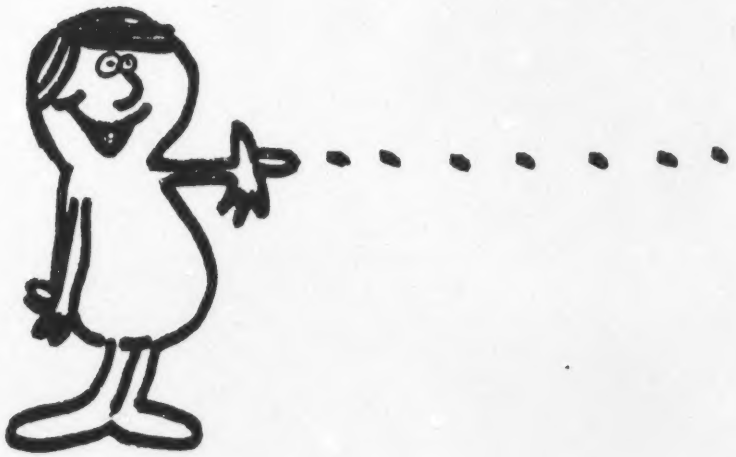
4. What major effort(s) must Jordan make to develop her economy?
   a- Establish more new manufacturing.
   b- Develop her transportation system.
   c- Increase trade relations and/ or trade exchange with other countries .
   d- Increase the area of irrigated land.
   e- All of the above.

5. Do you think that Jordan is an agricultural or industrial country? Why?

6. Why is trade between different countries beneficial?

7. Why are there many Jordanian students studying agriculture, industrial engineering, and economics in the United States and Western Europe?

8. How can the United States and Western Europe countries help Jordan develop her industrial system?



SECTION I

THE EFFECTIVENESS OF AGRICULTURE AND ANIMAL HUSBANDRY IN JORDAN ECONOMY

OBJECTIVES

After completing this section of the learning package, you will be able to:

1. List at least three of Jordan's agricultural activities.
2. Explain the relationship between agriculture and animal husbandry.
3. Compare the real agricultural situation in Jordan with other progressive countries such as the United States, and Great Britain.
4. Describe the real development which has taken place in the Jordan's Valley during the last two decades.
5. Evaluate the efforts of Jordan's government toward solving animal husbandry problems.
6. Classify Jordan's agricultural crops according to the seasons (summer crops & winter crops) and to their economic importance (cash crops & food crops).

RESOURCE ACTIVITIES

Directions: The activities in this section are designed to help you obtain the information you will need to meet the objectives listed. There are several choices available to you. The only requirement is that you complete one activity

from each group of choices and each of the starred (*)items.

* Do either activity number (1) or number (2):

1. Read "Agriculture and Livestock" in Area Handbook for the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan, by the United Nations (pp. 200-212).

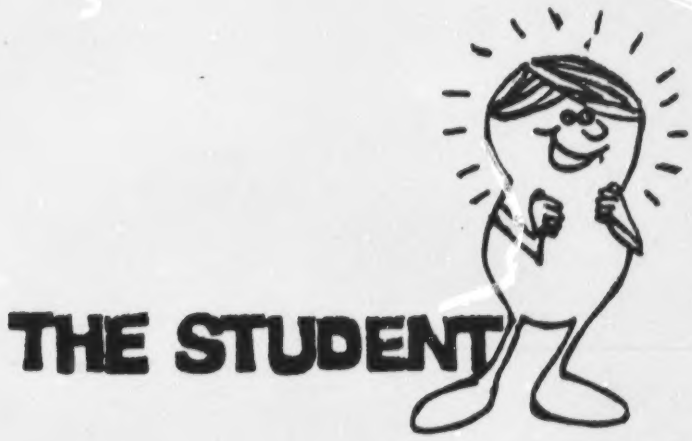
2. Read " Agriculture and Livestock " in the book: The Economic Development of Jordan, by The International Bank for Reconstruction and Development(pp. 78-178).

* Do one of activities number (3), number (4), or number(5):

3. View the 16mm film " Jordan Valley" (c. 20m.) (see your teacher for equipment and materials).
4. View the 8mm cartridge film "Jordan River Water System", (c. 14 m.),(see your teacher for equipment and materials).
5. Interview: Individually or with a friend or small group of friends, visit a family or group of families from Jordan or even from a different Middle East Arab country. Ask these families some questions about the agriculture and animal husbandry in Jordan.

* Do either activity number (6) or activity number (7):

6. Read "Agriculture and Animal Husbandry in Jordan" in the book: The Middle East: A Geographical Study, by Peter Beaumont (pp. 385-394).
7. Read "Jordan Economy" in the book: The Middle East: A Political and Economic Survey, by Peter Mansfield (pp. 375-399).



APPLICATION ACTIVITIES

Directions: These activities are designed to help you use the ideas and information you obtained from the resource activities. The directions are the same as for the resource activities, so you need to complete the starred(*) activities and at least one activity from each group of choices.

* Do either activity number (1) or number (2):

1. Design a plan for a Jordanian agricultural owner or manager to successfully help solve agricultural problems on his farm.
2. Visit a large library in your city or elsewhere in your district or state, and look for at least two articles about Jordanian agriculture and animal husbandry. Summarize

the main points included in these articles. Then, write a one-page essay, sharing your point of view about the level of Jordan's agriculture.

- Do either activity number (3) or number (4):

3. List three major characteristics of Jordan's agriculture and animal husbandry. For each:

   a- provide a written description of it.
   b- provide a picture, drawing, or any other illustration of it.

4. List the different agencies of agriculture in Jordan . For each:

   a- write specific definition of agricultural agency.
   b- write a statement explaining how the agency works to develop Jordan's agriculture.
   c- explain why the agency is important to Jordan's agricultural development.

SECTION II

THE IMPORTANCE OF INDUSTRY IN JORDAN'S ECONOMY

OBJECTIVES

After you completing this section of the learning package, you will be able to:

1. Define the most common types of industry in Jordan.
2. List at least two kinds of of industry which are controlled by the Jordanian government.
3. Analyze Jordan's industrial data from international statistical books.
4. Describe the importance of private-sector industry in Jordan.
5. Compare the present amount being spent nationally to support industry with other years in the past.

RESOURCE ACTIVITIES

Directions: The activities in this section are designed to help you obtain the information you will need to meet the objectives listed. There are several choices available to you. The only requirement is that you complete the activity from each group of choices and each of the starred (*) items.

* Do either activity number (1) or number (2):

1. Read " Jordan Industry" in the book: Comparative Study of Development Plans of Arab States (Jordan section) by United Nations Industrial Organization (pp. 109-134).

* 2. Read "Industry in Jordan" in the book: Industrialization and Productivity, by United Nations Industrial Development Organization.

* Do either activity number (3) or number (4):

3. Analysis of Pictoral Essay: Collect some pictures about Jordan's industry. Study these pictures examining in particular:

   a- Types of building.
   b- Types of industries.
   c- Facilities that are used.
   d- Differences between the pictures.

4. Study Jordan's industry figures in the book: The Growth of World Industry, by United Nations (pp. 278-282). Compare the figures of the last five years.

* Do either activity number 5 or number 6:

5. Read the article "Small-Scale Industries in Arab Countries of the Middle East, by United Nations Industrial Development Organization.

6. Read the article "Industrial Development in the Arab Countries" by United Nations Industrial Development Organization.

APPLICATION ACTIVITIES

Directions: These activities are designed to help you use the ideas and information you obtained from the resource activities. The directions are the same as for the resource activities, so you need to complete the starred(*)activities and at least one activity from each group of choices.

■ Do either activity number 1 or number 2:

1. Write a definition and give a clear example from Jordan for each of the following:

   a- Light industries.

   b- Heavy industries.

   c. Chemical industries.

2. Collect newspaper and magazine pictures which clearly illustrate the above three types of industry. Prepare a complete verbal explanation, and present some type of visual display, such as a poster.

ACTIVITIES FOR LEARNING

■ Do either activity number 3 or number 4:

3. Propose some realistic suggestions for developing Jordanian industry and for solving or preventing industrial problems.

4. Arrange a debate with your teacher or with other students to examine the question "Does the Industrial Program in Jordan Meet the Real Needs of the Jordanian People?" Use data to support your argument.

* Do either activity number 5 or number 6 :

5. Write a letter to the Jordanian Embassy in your country, and ask for printed materials about industry in Jordan. Prepare an interesting presentation. (Let your teacher look at the printed materials).

6. Send a letter to the Ministry of Industry in Amman(the capital of Jordan) asking for printed materials and pictures about industry in Jordan. Prepare a meaningful poster.

   The address of Jordan Ministry of Industry is:

   Jordan Ministry of Industry
   285 King Talal Street
   Amman - Jordan

SECTION III

TRADE PLAYS A VITAL FACTOR IN JORDAN'S ECONOMY

OBJECTIVES

After completing this section of learning package, you will be able to :

1. Define the two major types of trade found in Jordan.
2. List at least two characteristics of Jordan's trade.
3. Explain the importance of external trade in Jordan's economy.
4. Describe the relationship between Jordan's trade and her transportation system.
5. Discuss the reasons for Jordan's increased imports and exports in the last ten years.
6. Explain the most difficult problems facing Jordan's trade in the last decade.
7. Evaluate the efforts of the Jordanian government toward establishing good trade relations with the West, especially with the United States and Western Europe.

RESOURCE ACTIVITIES

Directions: As before, you are asked to complete one activity from each group of choices.

* Do either activity number 1 or number 2 :

1. Read "Jordan Trade" in the book: The Economic Development of Jordan, by The International Bank for Reconstruction and Development (pp. 363-383).

2. Read " Jordan Trade" in the book: Area Handbook for the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan, by the United Nations (pp. 175-200).

■ Do either activity number 3 or number 4:

3. Interview a university professor who is specialist in the Middle East area. Ask him questions about Jordan's economy in general and Jordan's trade in particular , taking careful notes. Try to emphasize the personal aspects of his opinion.

4. Review the book : Jordan Economic Aspects, by the United States Army Department.

■ Do either activity number 5 or number 6 :

5. Read " Economic Development in Jordan" in the book: The Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan and West Bank, by Allen Pollack(pp. 73-89).

6. Read the Unpublished Doctoral Dissertation " Critical Analysis and Evaluation of Trade in Jordan", by Salem Sheikh.

APPLICATION ACTIVITIES

Directions: As before, these activities are designed to help use the information you obtained by doing the resource activities. Again, select one activity from each group of choices.

■ Do either activity number 1 or number 2 :

1. Study the book : Foreign Trade Statistics of Jordan, by United Nations.Write a two-page essay comparing

Jordan's internal and external trade and describing the reasons for trade increases in the last few years.

2. Write a two-page essay discussing the major problems of Jordan's trade and suggesting some realistic solutions for these problems. Interview a specialist in the Middle East area and show him your suggestions. Write down his remarks and rewrite your suggestions in light of his comments.

* Do either activity number 3, number 4, or number 5:

3. Visit a large library and look for the book: International Trade Statistics, by United Nations. After studying the data for both Jordan and your country:

   a- Describe in one page the trade relationship between the two countries including the size of the trade.

   b- Give three examples of Jordan's exports to your country , and another three examples of Jordan's imports from your country.

4. Write a short answer to the question: "Why is the value of Jordan's imports much greater than the value of her exports, in spite of the fact that Jordan's exports have been increased many times during the last few years?".

5. Read a current article about Jordan's trade from the United Nations' materials. Summarize the main points in a one-page essay and give your comments or reactions on another page.

SELF-CHECK

Directions: On your own paper, write the answers to the following questions. When you have finished, get the answer key from your teacher and check to see how well you have done. If you didn't earn a grade of at least 70 percent, select additional resource and application activities from those areas in which you had difficulty. Then complete the self-check again before you go on to the Post-Assessment.

1. Write the letter "T"(True) or the letter "F"(False) in the space beside each of the following statements:

_____ a- Jordan imports many kinds of agricultural products from her neighbours.

_____ b- Jordan depends upon cash crops for her agricultural revenue.

_____ c- The Jordan Valley is the major agricultural area in Jordan.

_____ d- Un-irrigated crops spread over the plateau and mountain regions in Jordan.

2. Circle the correct answer to each of the following questions:

(1) Jordan can improve her agricultural production if:

a- Jordan's people use machines and new agricultural techniques.

b- The Jordanian government establishes new agricultural projects.

c- The Jordanian government sends many students and farmers to advanced countries for special training.

d- All of the above.

(2) The main problem in Jordan's agricultural development is:

a- The scarcity of water.

b- The scarcity of land.

c- The unpredictability of rainfall from one year to another.

d- The scarcity of machines and agricultural technology.

(3) The Jordan Valley is the best agricultural production area in Jordan because of:

a- Adequate annual rainfall.

b- The abundance of water.

c- The fertility of the earth.

d- The utilization of machines.

e- The large amount of agricultural production in both food crops and cash crops.

f- a and c.

g- b, c, and e.

(4) What is the most expensive type of industry in Jordan?

(5) List and explain at least two reasons why the Jordanian government has established many industries in the last ten years.

(6) Define and give examples of the following:

a- Heavy industry.

b- Light industry.

(7) Briefly explain the efforts of the Jordanian government in establishing new dams in the Jordan Valley.

(8) Describe the relationship between trade and the transportation system in Jordan.

(9) What are the major problems facing the field of animal husbandry?

(10) List three main Jordanian exports and three main Jordanian imports.

POST-ASSESSMENT

Directions: This assessment tries to measure your achievement of the objectives of this learning package. On your own paper, answer the following questions:

1. What type of industry is increasing rapidly in Jordan?Why?
2. List the main agencies of:
   a- Jordan Trade.
   b- Jordan industry.
3. Briefly state why the total value of Jordan's export is much less than the total value of her imports, in spite

of the fact that Jordan's exports have increased in the last few years.

4. List three major agricultural projects in Jordan. How is each important for Jordan's economy?

5. Write the letter "T"(True) or the letter "F"(False) in the space beside each of the following statements:

____ a- Jordanians depend more on agriculture than on any other aspect of their economy.

_____ b- Most Jordan industries center around Amman (the capital).

_____c- Jordan exports thousands of animals every year.

_____ d- Aqaba Port is the only port in Jordan.

_____ e- Jordan exports thousands of tons of cement to Syria, Iraq, and Saudi Arabia every year.

_____ f- The Jordan Valley is the most appropriate area in Jordan for animal husbandry.

_____ g- In the last five years, the Jordanian government has increased her interest in industry more than in agriculture.

_____ h- Jordan has a good trade relationship with the Western countries.

_____ i- Jordan is self-sufficient in light industry production.

6. Briefly list and explain the main problems facing Jordan in expanding her industrial programs.

7. Why does the Jordanian government encourage foreign firms to invest their capital in Jordanian industry and trade?

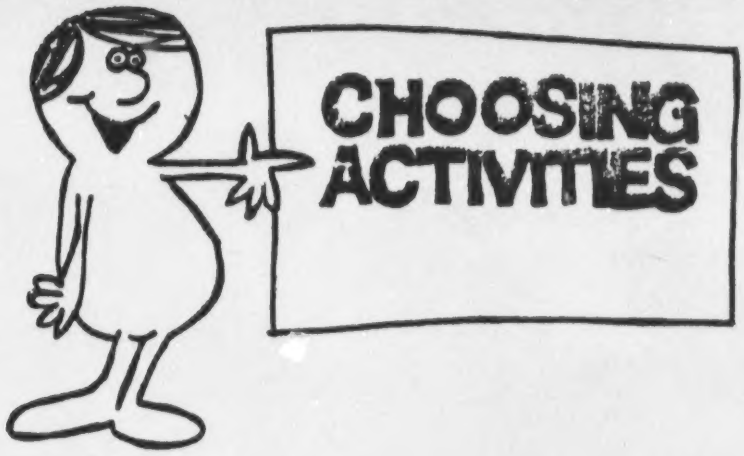
C O N G R A T U L A T I O N S !

U N D E R S T A N D I N G

O B J E C T I V E S

N O W

W H A T ?



QUEST

"Quest" is designed to provide some ideas and suggestions for additional investigation into the topic of "Aspects of Jordan's Economy". It can also provide follow-up activities that you might want to complete in order to apply some of the things you have learned during the package. In addition to the suggestions here, you could also possibly return to some of the application activities which you thought might be interesting but didn't have the time to complete earlier.

SOME SUGGESTED ADDITIONAL ACTIVITIES :

1. Coduct the class (with the teacher's permission and assesstance) in micro -unit on the topic of "Jordan Economy". (Be original in your presentation, requesting help from your teacher if necessary-- don't duplicate this learning package).
2. One problem associated with Jordan's economy which has been partially omitted in this package is "Finance". Look at the problem of "Finance", first by examining the article "Can Jordan Solve the Problem of Financing her economy?" and then by expanding the subject in whatever way seems beneficial to you.

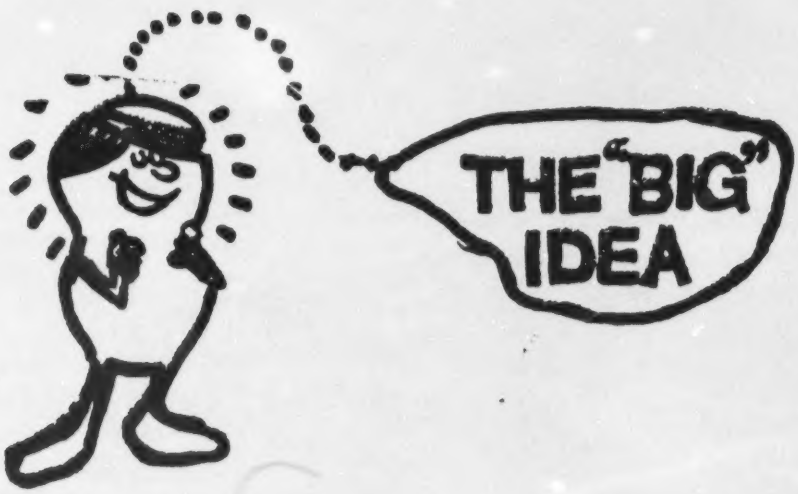
3. Read one or more of the following classic writing on "Jordan's Economy" and prepare an oral or written review. Pay particular attention to the major characteristics and economic aspects:

   a- Mazur, Michael. The Economic Development of Jordan.

   b- Kermani, Taghi. The United States Participation in the Economic Development of Jordan.

   c- Dajani, Izzat. Economic Appraisal of the Yarmouk Jordan Valley Project.

4. Prepare an original slide, transparency, or film presentation on the problems of Jordan's economy, and present it to the students in the classroom, or even to the community. If you can bear to, donate it to your school library or social studies teacher. (This would be excellent for a team or small-group project). Talk with your teacher, librarian or media specialist about techniques and supplies.



SUMMARY

Learning Activity Packages are important in learning-teaching situations. They provide options for student learning styles and pace, provide more occasions for genuine interaction between teacher and student, and encourage development of student responsibility.

This package is designed to make the student aware of,and concerned about Jordan's economy. The writer has chosen the " Aspects of Jordan's Economy " as the primary idea, followed by three secondary ideas: "The Effectiveness of Agriculture and Animal Husbandry", "The Importance of Industry", and "Trade Plays a Vital Factor." Various activities are listed which are highly related to the objectives the student will have achieved after he (or she) has completed the package.

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